

Serial No.: 10/065,285
Attorney Docket No.: F-560

Patent

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Amendment To The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for processing form input data comprising:
capturing user stroke data from a form including strokes made by a user with a pointing device by tracing over at least one form identifier character that is pre-printed on the form;
processing the strokes in order to determine form identification data;
receiving user identification data;
retrieving a form template using the form identification data;
determining if the user is authorized to use the form template; and
processing the form input data using the form template if the user is authorized to use the form template, wherein
~~the at least one form identifier character includes a plurality of distinct characters from a character set.~~
2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the pointing instrument is a digital pen and strokes are provided by the user writing on a paper form.
3. (previously amended) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
processing a pre-determined portion of the stroke data corresponding to at least one control string character to determine the form identification data; and
receiving user pen stroke data from at least one data field of the form before processing the strokes in order to determine the form identification data.
4. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein:
processing stroke data that satisfies pre-determined criteria to determine the form identification data.
5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein:

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the pre-determined criteria includes font criteria.

6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the form identification data includes a form serial number printed on the form, wherein the form serial number identifies a particular instance of a use of a form template.

8. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the form serial number printed on the form includes a dashed font.

9. (currently amended) A system for processing form input data comprising:
a processor;
a storage device connected to the processor;
the storage device storing a logic program;
the processor operative with the logic program to perform:
capturing user stroke data relating to strokes made by a user with a pointing device corresponding to at least one form identifier character that is pre-printed on the form;
processing the strokes in order to determine form identification data;
receiving user identification data;
retrieving a form template using the form identification data; and
determining if the user is authorized to use the form template; and
processing the form input data using the form template if the user is authorized to use the form template, wherein
~~the at least one form identifier character includes a plurality of distinct~~
~~characters from a character set.~~

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10. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein the pointing instrument is a digital pen and strokes are provided by the user writing on a paper form.

11. (previously amended) The system of claim 10 further comprising the processor operative with the logic program to perform:

processing a pre-determined portion of the stroke data corresponding to at least one control string character to determine the form identification data; and

receiving user pen stroke data from at least one data field of the form before processing the strokes in order to determine the form identification data.

12. (original) The system of claim 10 further comprising the processor operative with the logic program to perform:

processing stroke data that satisfies pre-determined criteria to determine the form identification data.

13. (original) The system of claim 12 wherein:
the pre-determined criteria includes font criteria.

14. (previously amended) The system of claim 11 wherein:
the pre-determined portion of the stroke data is related to a pre-determined physical portion of the form; and
the form identification data includes a form serial number printed on the form.

15. (original) The system of claim 14 wherein the form serial number printed on the form includes a dashed font.

16. (canceled).

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

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processing the strokes in order to determine a unique instance data identifier for the particular form.

18.-19. (canceled).

20. (previously presented) The system of claim 9 further comprising the processor operative with the logic program to perform:

processing the strokes in order to determine a unique instance data identifier for the particular form, and wherein
the character set includes non-alphanumeric characters.

21. (new) The method of claim 2, wherein:
the user identification data includes pen stroke data.

22. (new) The method of claim 2, wherein:
the user identification data includes pen identification data.

23. (new) The system of claim 10, wherein:
the user identification data includes pen stroke data and pen identification data.

24. (new) A method for processing form input data comprising:
capturing user stroke data from a form including strokes made by a user with a digital pen on a digital paper form;
processing the strokes in order to determine a subset of the user strokes consisting of form identification data by searching the stroke data for predetermined symbols associated with form identification data;
retrieving a form template using the form identification data; and

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processing the form input data using the form template, wherein the subset of strokes is not located in a fixed location on the digital paper form.